

University of North Carolina Wilmington **magazine**

SUMMER 2008

UNCW

*The foundation of tradition:
connecting classical style with modern needs*

University of North Carolina Wilmington magazine

UNCW

Summer 2008
Volume 18, Number 3

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On the cover:

Elaborate Corinthian columns at Kenan House, home of UNCW's chancellor, are reflective of the university's overall classical Georgian architectural style.

Photo by Jamie Moncrief



With its Greek Corinthian columns and Flemish bond masonry, **Hoggard Hall**, one of the three original buildings on campus, exemplifies the modified Georgian architectural style that defines the UNC Wilmington campus. (See story on page 16.)

Dear alumni and friends,

Unlimited potential. Those two words describe our students, our faculty and staff, as well as the future of the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

If you haven't been to see us in some time, our beautiful campus is better than ever. In the past four years, we built or renovated 14 buildings, and those are just the projects on our main campus. Importantly, we have designed the new additions to fit within the classic, Georgian architectural style that defines UNCW (see feature, page 16). We just completed a new operations building at the Center for Marine Science, and we will break ground this fall on our new School of Nursing building. Plans are being developed for a teaching-laboratory building, an expansion of our student recreation center and a new academic services building for student-athletes.

Our financial resources continue to grow. UNCW is fortunate to receive significant essential support from the state, but public funding cannot fully meet our needs or goals. We have just completed our best fundraising year ever for UNCW, with more than \$13.8 million in gifts and pledges from generous alumni, donors, corporations, foundations and friends. During the past three years, we have raised \$29.7 million for scholarships, professorships, academic and athletic programs, regional engagement and outreach and so much more. Thanks to careful investment management of your generous support dollars, UNCW has built its overall endowment to about \$56 million, more than doubling it in the last five years.

The university needs these resources to support our primary strategic goal: provide students with the most powerful learning experience possible. As you will see in the article (page 20) about Shawna Lesseur '08, scholarships and fellowships give students the financial support they need to fulfill their potential. Nearly 1,900 students graduated in May from UNCW, having experienced outstanding classes, research experiences, internships and study-abroad excursions in nations as diverse as Costa Rica, Japan, Peru and Scotland. They delved into community projects, including Habitat for Humanity with our own UNCW-built home, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Special Olympics and so many more.

Although we miss our graduates, we know they will stay connected through the alumni association and its activities, including Fall Alumni Weekend/Family Weekend Oct. 17-19.

We are now ready to welcome a new group of Seahawks to campus. More than 2,000 freshmen, who will arrive in August, are scheduled to graduate in 2012, the year UNCW celebrates its 65th anniversary. I met many of our impressive new students and their parents during orientation in June. Their average GPA, 3.75, indicates their passion for learning, and so we can expect great things from these future Seahawks in the years to come.

In closing, I invite you to visit UNCW this fall. Watch our student-athletes in competition. See a play, tour an art exhibition or attend a concert. Listen to a guest lecturer. Talk with our students, faculty and staff. Learn who we are now and who we have the potential to become.

As always, I welcome your calls, letters and e-mails. Your support for the University of North Carolina Wilmington is outstanding. Thanks for helping us soar even higher.

All the best,



Rosemary DePaolo
Chancellor





Top: **Barbro Osher** and Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo

Middle: Provost Paul Hosier and **Bernard Osher**

Bottom: Provost Hosier, Chancellor DePaolo and **Irwin "Ike" Belk**

Photos by Jamie Moncrief

Three philanthropists received honorary Doctor of Humanity degrees during spring 2008 commencement ceremonies, recognizing their exceptional service to UNCW and their contributions in furthering educational opportunities for students and lifelong learners.

Honorary degrees recognize philanthropists

Barbro and Bernard Osher have been heavily involved in philanthropic work in the United States and Sweden. Bernard Osher Foundation, which was founded in 1977 to support a growing national network of lifelong learning institutes for older adults, provided \$1 million to endow the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNCW. OLLI provides non-credit university courses, seminars, lectures, travel excursions and other educational opportunities for adult learners through the Division for Public Service and Continuing Studies. The Oshers also established an endowed scholarship at UNCW that provides financial assistance for non-traditional, re-entry students.

Currently the chief executive officer of the Belk Group Inc., **Irwin "Ike" Belk** has been an advocate for the university since the 1960s, when he and other state leaders worked to expand the University of North Carolina system that UNCW joined in 1969. In April 2008 Belk helped established a \$1 million distinguished professorship to recruit and retain outstanding School of Nursing faculty. Other gifts to UNCW have supported Bryan Auditorium in Morton Hall and a recently commissioned Seahawk sculpture that will grace the front of campus. Belk Hall, a women's residence hall, is named for his mother, Mary Lenora Irwin Belk.



1,642 bachelor's degrees

243 master's degrees

1 doctoral degree

3 honorary doctorates

13 percent increase in graduates who studied abroad

Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo congratulates graduates as they line up before UNC Wilmington's first commencement for the College of Arts and Sciences. A second commencement for the college and a third for the schools of business, education and nursing also were held May 10.

'08 Razor Walker Awards

For 15 years, the Watson School of Education has honored individuals and companies who dedicate themselves to changing the lives of youth across the state by presenting them with the Razor Walker Awards.



Top left to right: Elliott Palmer, Chip Leavitt, CEO, Brunswick Electric Membership Corp., Byron Bey

Bottom left to right: Juanita Palmer, Eleanor Wright, H. Elizabeth Miars

Byron "Barry" Bey, who started the aquaculture program at South Brunswick High School in 1987, teaches his students the importance of science, environmental awareness, responsibility, citizenship and service to the community through the hands-on experiences of raising fish and restocking overfished waters.

H. Elizabeth Miars, principal of Rachel Freeman School of Engineering, and her staff strive to give their students the academic background, creative thinking skills and vision to build dreams for the future. Through these efforts, she is establishing a high expectation, high achievement learning environment for an underserved population.

In 1984, retired educators **Elliott and Juanita Palmer** founded the African American Cultural Complex, a unique collection of artifacts, documents and displays of the outstanding contributions made by African Americans. Through structured educational programs, the center creates awareness of African American history, offering tours to groups from schools, churches and community organizations.

A founding member of the special education faculty at UNCW, **Eleanor Wright** was instrumental in developing the curriculum for both bachelor's and master's programs. Throughout her career, she has been an advocate for students with special needs in the state, writing and directing grant programs to provide special education teachers with effective instructional techniques and appropriate curricula.

Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation originated the Bright Ideas program which provides grants for innovative, classroom-based projects in grades K-12 that otherwise would not be funded. In Brunswick and Columbus counties, BEMC awarded \$32,200 in grants for the 2007-08 school year and has awarded nearly \$300,000 since the program's inception in 1993.



by Lauren Cribbs '08

Nearly half of the 1,000 shoes collected at Bradley Creek and College Park elementary schools found their way to impoverished families who live near Managua, Nicaragua, thanks to the efforts of a group of UNCW students.

"The Nicaraguan people were so grateful for the shoes that we brought," said **Colleen Tulley '11**. "Most of them had been standing outside for nearly two days just so they could get a good place in line. Seeing their faces light up as soon as they took a good look at the shoes took my breath away! It was a true liberating moment when we sold the last pair of shoes because we realized just how much the Nicaraguan people appreciated our contribution."

UNCW students have 'sole'

The effort was part of the Go Home Barefoot campaign sponsored by Manna Project International – Wilmington. The remaining 500 shoes were donated to First Fruits, a community organization that assists the homeless. In addition to Tulley, **Meredith Butters '09**, **Audrey Bafford '10**, **Sara Casey '10**, **Nathan Hingtgen '08**, **Stephanie MacConnell '11**, Nick Colquitt and **Alyse Hunsucker '09** traveled to Nicaragua over spring break and visited a community called La Chureca. The group plans to sponsor a young girl living there who suffers from malnourishment.

In April, the group sponsored a concert by Braddigan, a group that tours nationwide to raise awareness of the poverty in La Chureca, raising several thousand dollars to support the community.

Because of the students' efforts, the Wilmington chapter of Manna Project was featured in the organization's newsletter to all of its supporters.

"While we were there, we also taught classes in English, Spanish, math and art. We learned a lot about the culture and got very close to the people. It was amazing, and I would go back in a second," said Butters '09 who was community coordinator for the Manna Project.



Adams



Blake



Chapman



Lema

faculty and staff



Maimone

Paul Hosier resigned from his post as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs to return to full-time teaching in the Department of Biology and Marine Biology, effective July 1. Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo credited Hosier as being integral to the university's success because of his personal interest in the recruitment and retention of faculty, staff and students. "He has been a strong advocate for improving the quality of facilities and providing needed space. His work with vice chancellors and deans in helping prioritize budgets during difficult times as well as during those years with somewhat better funding has helped this university soar."

Replacing Hosier is **Brian R. Chapman** who was provost and vice president for academic affairs at West Texas A&M University. At West Texas A&M and Sam Houston State University, where he was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Chapman was instrumental in the development of innovative academic programs, effective strategies for increasing student retention and improving student learning outcomes. He previously served as professor of zoology and graduate coordinator in the University of Georgia School of Forest Resources and was on the faculty at the University of Oklahoma and Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. He received master's and doctoral degrees in zoology from Texas Tech University and a bachelor's degree in biology from Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Charles Maimone is the new vice chancellor for business affairs, replacing Ron Core who held that position since 2004. Maimone had served in several positions at UNCW from 1986 to 1995, including associate dean of students/residence life, director of housing and food services and director of auxiliary services. Maimone had been at the College of William and Mary since 1995 serving as associate vice president for administration and director of auxiliary services. He has a master's degree in business administration from the College

of William and Mary as well as master of education and bachelor of arts degrees from Kent State University. He is also a certified public manager.

Virginia Adams relinquished her position as dean of the School of Nursing effective June 30. She will serve as special assistant to the vice provost through June 2009, then return to the faculty as professor of nursing the following year. Under Adams' leadership since 1994, the School of Nursing doubled its student population. Adams focused on creating opportunities for faculty and staff to become engaged in applied teaching, research and community partnerships, locally as well as internationally. She is recognized statewide for incubating Camp BONES, a program designed to prepare underserved and underrepresented youth interested in nursing and health careers. She also initiated continuing education programs to address critical issues for nurses in the region. Adams was largely responsible for demonstrating the need for a School of Nursing building, working with the N.C. General Assembly to obtain a \$30.1 million appropriation for the building's design and construction, slated to begin in the fall.

As the new assistant provost for international programs, **Denise DiPuccio** will work to imbue a sense of global citizenship in the student body, the faculty, the curriculum and the local community, as well as to increase student participation in study abroad programs and the presence of international students on campus. She was previously chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.

Suzanne Blake, emergency management coordinator, attended specialized hurricane training at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Fla. She was one of three emergency managers chosen by the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management

to represent the state of North Carolina at the course. During the weeklong session, Blake received in-depth training on the intricacies of hurricanes including forecasting, climate change factors, storm surge, flooding, evacuations and resources for decision-making.

Biology professor **Ann Stapleton** is part of the iPlant Collaborative, a \$50 million, National Science Foundation-funded project led by the University of Arizona. It will unite plant scientists, computer scientists and information scientists from around the world for the first time ever to provide answers to plant biology questions of global importance and advance all of these fields. Stapleton said improving communication between scientists could lead to major scientific breakthroughs.

Sean Lema, assistant professor in the biology and marine biology department, found that a sulfur compound produced by algae can provide odor signals that communicate the presence of healthy food sources for marine organisms. Measuring the compound dimethylsulfoniopropionate (DMSP) and related marine fish patterns may help scientists track global climate regulation. When released from the ocean, derivatives of DMSP in the atmosphere promote cloud formation. Clouds reflect sunlight back into space and cool the Earth. "When you see changes in global water conditions, you will see changes in these chemical productions and animals in habitats, and possibly global climate. DMSP byproducts are studied quite often in conjunction with climate change," noted Lema, who collaborated with researchers from the University of California Davis. Their work was published in the March 7, 2008, issue of *Science Magazine*.



Words heard 'round the world

When Federal Reserve vice chairman Donald Kohn shared his thoughts on the state of the American economy during an address at the Cameron School of Business in February, his words were heard around the world.

The story received widespread international coverage with respected media outlets such as *Reuters*, *Forbes*, *USA Today*, the *Wall Street Journal* and *Bloomberg* picking up the story, all mentioning the fact he was speaking at UNCW.

Although his review of the state of the economy was bleak, he highlighted that by mid-2008, the economy should begin to benefit from the fiscal stimulus package passed by Congress, and other economic factors.

"Lower interest rates will not stop, only cushion housing markets," he predicted. However, he projected more economic stability in late 2008 to 2009, as the instability of the housing market and mortgages begins to clear.

"The most likely scenario is one in which the economy experiences a period of sluggish growth in demand and production in the near term that is accompanied by some further increase in joblessness," Kohn foreshadowed.

To students and business leaders, Kohn emphasized the Fed's role in maintaining prices and, ultimately, national economic stability. He said, "We have the tools. As chairman Bernanke often emphasizes, we will do what is needed."



Barefoot



Cauble



Hargrave



Kirsteier



academic,
athletic

achievements

Baseball standout Daniel Hargrave and swimming workhorse Caitlin Kirsteier received the Thomas V. Moseley Award as UNCW's top student-athletes for 2007-08.

Justin Barefoot and Jenny Cauble were honored with the Chancellor's Cup Award, Todd Hendley was the inaugural recipient of the Soaring Seahawk Award, Bob Lloyd, volunteer photographer, was presented the William J. Brooks Distinguished Service Award and the baseball squad garnered the Team Leadership Award.

Hargrave was one of the catalysts behind UNCW's record-setting 44-17-1 season in which the Seahawks earned their first national ranking. He finished fourth on the team with a .333 batting average and led the squad in at bats and tied for the lead with a school-record 71 runs scored. While starting all 62 games, Hargrave, an All-Colonial first-team honoree, slammed 18 home runs and drove in a career-high 62 runs.

Kirsteier captured the CAA title in the 100 butterfly and swam a leg on the winning 200 medley relay team at the CAA swimming and diving championships. She also set a conference record in the 100 fly with an NCAA "B" qualifying time of 53.90 and set school records in the 100 fly, 50 freestyle and 400 medley relay. She posted a 3.9 GPA in her major of education.

Cauble was one of the key reasons for the rapid emergence of the women's soccer program. A four-year starter and two-time team captain, she made the All-Conference team all four seasons, twice as a First-Team selection, and ranked among the top five in seven career statistical categories. An accounting major with a 3.86 GPA, she made the Dean's List every semester and Chancellor's List with a perfect 4.0 four times.

Barefoot compiled a 3.35 GPA in his major of exercise science. He made the Dean's List and received the Seahawk Award, Golden Seahawk Award and CAA Commissioner's Award.

Hendley was the first recipient of the Soaring Seahawk Award, given to an individual who is an exemplary representative of UNCW's student-athletes. A member of the men's basketball team for three years, Hendley served as a team captain and was involved in numerous community service activities, traveling overseas the last two summers with the Athletes-In-Action ministry.

A retiree who lives in Wilmington, Lloyd received the William J. Brooks Distinguished Service Award, established in 1991 to recognize individuals who have contributed their time and talents to the betterment of the program.

The Team Leadership Award went to the baseball team which logged approximately 360 volunteer hours while remaining solid in the classroom – 16 of its 33 players compiled a 3.0 or better GPA in the fall.



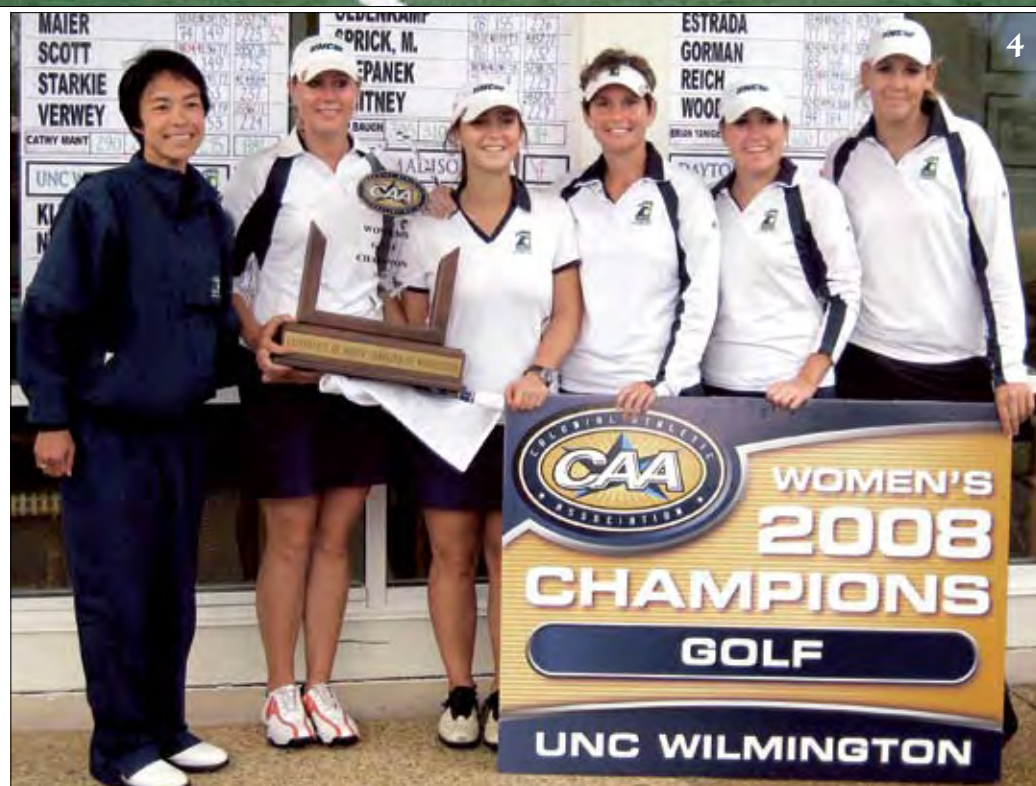
1 UNC Wilmington cruised to its seventh-straight CAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championship. Dave Allen was named Men's Swimming Co-Coach of the Year for the fifth time, and Marc Ellington was named Men's Diving Coach of the Year for the third time.

2 UNC Wilmington overcame a 43.5 point deficit on the second day of the 2008 CAA Men's Track and Field Championship to win by 4.5 points, the smallest winning margin in championship history. The Seahawks swept the medals in the decathlon. Brian Blumenstein set the CAA championship record with 6,581 points.



3 T.J. Carter capped a storybook ending to his collegiate career with the CAA's John H. Randolph Inspiration Award. The award, presented by CAA Commissioner Tom Yeager recognizes individuals who through strength of character and human spirit serve as an inspiration to all to maximize their potential and ability for success.

4 UNC Wilmington earned its second straight CAA Women's Golf Championship title and an automatic bid to the NCAA Women's Golf Championship, finishing 13th overall.





Mongero strikes home run with baseball manual

by Joe Browning

It was just like ol' times for **Trent Mongero '91** as he crouched into his fielding stance in the clay infield at bucolic Brooks Field, sucking up ground balls like a runaway Hoover right out of the box.

Only this time, things were slightly different than they were when he was the Seahawk shortstop almost 20 years ago.

No fans reclining in the chair back seats. No teammates chatting it up in the sunflower seed-covered dugouts. And none of the repetitive, ear-piercing pinging of today's metal bats.

Breaking the eerie silence, instead, on the pristine diamond was the clicking and whirring of cameras as Mongero, a former college and professional baseball player, now high school baseball coach turned author, participated in the production of his latest baseball venture.

Mongero, who started all 93 games during the 1989 and 1990 seasons at UNCW and was 1989 CAA Player of the Year, wrote and produced the DVDs for his first book, *A Major League Guide to Amateur Baseball* (www.baseballmanual.com), three years ago. The 265-page manual, with eight instructional DVDs, was a big hit for amateur players, coaches and parents looking to improve the level of their play from T-ball to the college level.

Ray Tanner, head baseball coach at the University of South Carolina and USA Baseball, was so impressed he wrote the forward for the manual.

"I never thought I'd be doing a project the magnitude of this one," said Mongero, who batted .302 and stole 39 bases in his two years with the Seahawks. "It was never meant for this project to get where it is now with the new books."

Where "it" is right now is an even bigger task than penning the first book. The "first book" became a manuscript and drew the attention of two large publishers out of New York City which resulted in a one-year authoring process for a new three-book series with 10 DVDs.

"The book I wrote a few years ago was a comprehensive baseball manual for coaches, players and parents (from T-ball through high school) in Richmond County, N.C.," said Mongero. The 41-year-old high school baseball coach, who has had more than 70 former players go on to play baseball in college, including former Seahawks Bryan Britt, Joey Pyrtle '96 and Ronald Hill, worked three seasons as the head coach at Richmond Senior

High School before moving on to North Hall High School in Gainesville, Ga.

"Ultimately I wanted my future 'Raider' players to be more prepared when they got to high school, and I also wanted local coaches, players and parents at the youth level to have a rewarding baseball experience.

"We printed 200 of the original books with eight accompanying instructional DVDs, and we gave them away to all youth and junior high baseball coaches in Richmond County who wanted one."

Mongero's manual was so well received that large publishing houses Sterling Publishing and McGraw Hill actually engaged in a bidding war for the rights to contract Mongero to author a sequel. Owned by Barnes & Noble, Sterling Publishing won out and urged Mongero to use a professional filming crew for the new instructional DVDs. The tentative title for the three-book series is *Secrets to Winning Baseball*.

"Being here to film is so much fun," Mongero said, grinning like a Little Leaguer on opening day. "It's both exciting and nerve wracking. It's kind of like playing an actual game. I get a little tongue-tied when the cameras start rolling, and then I relax and the words begin to flow. It all boils down to teaching the game that I learned to play right here at UNCW under former head coach Bobby Guthrie and current head coach Mark Scalf."

Mongero and a six-man crew spent eight days in the fall shooting film at Brooks Field. Following a detailed script, the New York native covered every aspect of the game of baseball from the T-ball level to the college level.

He said, "I feel comfortable doing instruction on all parts of baseball because as a high school coach, you have to be able to teach all aspects of the game.

"The books are not just all baseball skills and drills, though. We give a lot of insight into the game as a whole. We take an in-depth look at the role of the parents in the game, the college recruiting process, as well as the mental side of baseball. We cover goal setting, how to implement your own program, how to set up practices,

tryouts, weight training and agility, and on and on."

Mongero, who also coached at Wilmington's E.A. Laney High School for 12 years – nine as head coach and three as an assistant – before moving to Richmond County, says the latest project has been "a continual learning experience."

He enlisted a host of former players to help demonstrate various skills and drills. The group included Hill, UNCW's all-time wins leader, and other Laney grads and former college baseball players Walker Gorham, Stephen Batts and Blair Waggett.

"It's an honor for me to have those guys come back and be a part of this. I'm thrilled to death to have them be involved. Walker just returned from serving in Iraq for the past year and a half and was willing to spend his valuable time out here with us demonstrating the skills needed to play first base."

Mongero even convinced his wife Sonya '96 to let their son, Taber, demonstrate skills for the 9- and 10-year-old age group.

During the shoot in the Port City, Mongero had an opportunity to visit with the Seahawk coaching staff and players as well as tour the new Herbert Fisher Field House.

"UNCW has a fabulous baseball program and a great coaching staff. These improvements will help them recruit the best athletes in the country and continue to take this program to the next level and eventually to the College World Series," he said.

When the books and DVDs are released nationally, Mongero hopes they will be a valuable teaching aid for coaches, players and parents for many years to come.

"I'm still not sure why I've been chosen by God to author these books, but I hope this information will help coaches, players and parents enjoy the game of baseball to the highest level. It's always been and still is about helping kids and parents reach their goals while learning to keep the game of baseball in perspective."

Playing *for keeps*

by Brenda Riegel

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

The challenge was to create a retreat for beginning teachers to support and mentor them through the ups and downs of their first year experiences.

The result was **“Will It Phase You?”**, an innovative game and workshop developed by Beth Metcalf '97, '05M, UNCW teacher-in-residence, and Kelly Batts '97, '00M, former recruitment and retention coordinator for Pender County Schools and current New Hanover County Schools system-wide mentor.

Presented with the challenge, Batts immediately sought assistance from her alma mater's First Years of Teaching Support Program coordinator, Beth Metcalf. Together they met it head on, creating a scenario-based game and workshop that let beginning teachers work through potential classroom situations in a risk-free setting.

Based on the game of golf, “Will It Phase You?” focuses on the cycle of emotional phases beginning teachers experience: anticipation, survival, disillusionment, rejuvenation, reflection and anticipation. The game and workshop are targeted toward new graduates as they begin their careers, teachers in their first few years in the field and the teachers and administrators who mentor them.

“In higher education, we are successful in teaching strategies and information, but it's harder to find a way to work through the intangibles,” said Metcalf. “How do you handle the emotional aspects of teaching?”

“Will It Phase You?” is a creative outlet that lets players work through some of the more difficult facets of teaching in a way that people actually enjoy.

Research shows that many beginning teachers leave the profession in December – when they are exhausted and mired in the disillusionment phase. If they have not experienced this game and workshop, they may not realize rejuvenation – and hope – is right around the corner. Batts sees the evidence of these cycles in her role with New Hanover County Schools. By January, many teachers who were at



Jamie Moncrief

SURVIVAL DISILLUSION REJUVENATION REFLECTION ANTICIPATION 1 ANTICIPATION 2



the end of their ropes in December are suddenly full of ideas and ready for new challenges.

When beginning teachers play the game, there are definite “aha” moments. As Metcalf and Batts lead the post-game workshops, they find that many teachers thought they were the only ones experiencing the tough times. They felt discouraged and isolated, sure all the other teachers were sailing through with no setbacks. Then, they realized their experiences are not unique.

“The game is based on research about their own profession, and they deserve to know it,” said Metcalf.

“Players often come to the realization that there is more up than down in teaching. That tells us the caliber and generally positive attitudes of the teachers we have entering the profession. They are more willing to take the dips because they know the dips will come to an end,” said Metcalf.

Amie Cummings '07 teaches English as a second language and English I at Laney High School in Wilmington. She recently completed the “Will It Phase You?” workshop at UNCW.

“It was really cool,” said Cummings. “You roll the dice, and the scenarios start a conversation. My group and I quickly started troubleshooting. It really got us talking.”

Cummings found the realistic scenarios put some things in perspective for her. She found herself thinking, “Oh, I don’t have it that bad.” She saw improvements after spring break but felt she wouldn’t fully enter the rejuvenation phase until the end of the semester.

Cummings recommends the game for any beginning teacher and thinks it is especially valuable for students during

their internship semester. “It will help prepare them for what they will experience.”

Batts and Metcalf understand the experiences of beginning teachers from a research perspective and from personal experience. Both women earned bachelor’s degrees in elementary education and master’s degrees in curricular instruction and supervision from the Watson School. Batts was a North Carolina Teaching Fellow, and both are National Board Certified Teachers. The scenarios used in the games came from their own experiences as teachers.

Participants play through positive and negative scenarios. For example, players might draw a card that says, “Report cards are due next week, and you have no idea how to use the required software” or “You take your class on a field trip and they behave perfectly.”

Although “Will It Phase You?” was inspired by a one-time event, Metcalf and Batts knew they wanted to develop something they could use over and over again.

Regional, statewide and national emphasis on recruitment and retention efforts have sparked interest in the “Will It Phase You?” game and workshop. With the leadership of Dean Cathy Barlow and the expertise of Christy Shannon and Ron Podraza of the UNCW Office of Technology Transfer, “Will It Phase You?” is now being marketed and distributed to other educators and can be purchased online at www.uncw.edu/ed/willitphaseyou.

“This is truly partnership at work,” said Batts of this collaboration, which has resulted in a game that can have far-reaching benefits, helping schools keep dedicated teachers in the classroom for years to come.

UNCW a reel hit with filmmakers

by Lauren Cribbs '08

It hasn't been quiet on the set at UNC Wilmington since 1992. For the past 16 years, the university has been the backdrop for dozens of movie, television and commercial productions.

More than 300 feature films, television movies and series, commercials and music videos have been filmed in Wilmington, earning it the title of Hollywood East and placing it on the Top 10 list of cities in which to make a movie.

The drama began in 1983, when Academy Award-winning producer Dino DeLaurentiis fell in love with Wilmington during the filming of Stephen King's *Firestarter* and established DEG Film Studios. The studio changed hands over the years, and in 1997 Frank Capra Jr., who also worked on *Firestarter*, returned to Wilmington to be the CEO of EUE/Screen Gems Studios, the largest full-service motion picture studio outside of California.

According to the Wilmington Regional Film Commission Inc., the area "has continued to be one of the most productive and cost-effective filmmaking destinations in the world." The diverse locations available for filming are one of the city's main draws, and UNCW is a vital part of that. The campus is often sought after by location managers from across the country.

"To the extent that's practical, we like to help the film community prosper. It encourages good economic development for the region and the state," said Sharon Boyd, associate vice chancellor for business affairs at UNCW, who usually gets the first call from industry professionals.

Since 1992, the campus has hosted major productions such as *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, *Bolden!*, "Dawson's Creek" and "Matlock." "Dawson's Creek" spent four of its six seasons at UNCW's Alderman Hall, which served as the series' Capeside High School for James Van Der Beek, Katie Holmes and Michelle Williams.

CW's "One Tree Hill" has filmed scenes around campus, including the Education Building and Randall Library. The Education Building also served as the corporate headquarters depicted in NBC's "Surface;" other scenes were filmed at the Center for Marine Science. Brooks Field, the home of Seahawk baseball, will appear in the pilot of an upcoming HBO series, "Eastbound & Down."

Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood shot several scenes in Kenan House, which serves as the chancellor's home when it is not in the spotlight. Next door, Wise Alumni House appeared in the major motion picture *Bolden!* and the TV movie *Black Magic*.

The university's ability to accommodate so many scenes makes it a valuable asset to the movie industry, said Johnny Griffin, director of the Wilmington Regional Film Commission. "Instead of having to build sets that look like colleges, high schools, private schools or other buildings, we already have them here."



However, having large-scale productions on campus may cause inconveniences. When agreeing to host such productions, the university has to consider potential disruption of classes and activities, parking and catering arrangements, increased traffic and onsite security.

"We look at the scope of the project and the location itself on campus. We let them know what our conditions are and negotiate from there," Boyd said.

"Film companies respect that the university is trying to give an education and works around obstacles to let us film," Griffin noted. "I think it is a wonderful way that the university gives back."

Ed Wagenseller, professional actor and UNCW theater lecturer, believes the positives outweigh the negatives. "Filming here shows off the beauty of our campus. It shows filmmakers the diversity of campus and the scope of locations."

The national exposure for the school is another advantage of filming. Wagenseller said people still visit the campus to see "Dawson's Creek" locations firsthand.



Tourists are not the only star-struck visitors to UNCW. Many potential students are drawn in by the glamour of attending class in buildings from scenes of popular television shows and movies.

Direct exposure to the professional filmmaking process provides a unique learning experience available to UNCW film studies students due in part to the legacy left by Frank Capra Jr., one of the department's founders.

Wagenseller uses filming on campus as a learning opportunity for his acting students. "People have this idea that acting is glamorous work. It is anything but! Of the eight hours on set, six are the most boring hours of your life, but the two hours when you actually do something make it worth it," he observed.

"The Simpsons" producer and writer Don Payne, award-winning New York director and screenwriter Ira Sacks and documentary filmmaker Judith Hefland are among the professionals who have offered their expertise to students in the classroom as instructors and through presentations as part of the Moviemakers and Scholars Series.

Alumni of the program are making names for themselves securing industry positions across the country and abroad,

from camera operators to founders of production companies.

Jessica Buchanan '05 coordinates studio film test screenings for the Los Angeles-based Nielsen Research Group. Previously, she interned with the Braun Entertainment Group in Beverly Hills. In the Port City, **Nate Daniel '07**, with Legion Production Services, edited a behind-the-scenes special feature segment for the upcoming "One Tree Hill" DVD release.

The excellence of UNCW's Film Studies Department was recognized by The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. The academy, impressed with the work of UNCW students, awarded scholarships to assist with traveling and living costs for students completing internships in Los Angeles.

Department chair Lou Buttino established the connection with the academy several years ago.

"I wanted internships in Los Angeles so we were not solely dependent upon Wilmington for them, but also to give our students a shot at a job," Buttino said. Competition for this award was high, and receiving it places UNCW among the best film schools in the nation, he noted.



Nelson Oliver, center, directs a scene from *The Red Cape*.

Stellar student achievement

Nelson Oliver '08 has dreamed of being a filmmaker since age seven.

More than a decade later, he is now one of the most active participants in UNCW's Film Studies Department.

Oliver has served as the director of photography on five short films already, but his biggest accomplishment so far is his current project: *The Red Cape*. Oliver recreated the 1898 Wilmington race riot for this short film, and it has proven to be a groundbreaking endeavor.

He is the first student to direct using 35mm film. The elaborate set included two stories, a controlled burn, horses, carriages, guns, 100 period costumes and the actors to fill those costumes. Oliver has also surpassed the highest budget student film to date. Previously, the highest budget student film totaled \$12,000.

"This short film is now at \$30,000. This is truly an incredible feat," Oliver said.

Oliver attributes this experience to UNCW's film studies program.

"UNC Wilmington has a unique opportunity no other schools have" Oliver said, describing the generosity of the film industry in Wilmington and the relationship the university has with the industry. He also expressed appreciation for UNCW's "stellar faculty" and their continued support.

The Red Cape should be completed within a year and has drawn the attention of several organizations, including the North Carolina Museum of History and the Cape Fear Museum.



Campus
Architecture:

*Designing the future,
echoing the past*

by Brenda Riegel



Roman Corinthian column (Kenan House)



Since 2000, eight state-of-the-art buildings and two apartment complexes have been built at UNCW. Keeping a consistent design standard so the new buildings blend into the existing campus has been a priority, but not always easy to do.

Over the years, members of the university's board of trustees, who are tasked with upholding the unique character of UNCW, have held some lively discussions. In fact, one recent project, Seahawk Landing, was sent back to the architects for revision so that the final design was more in keeping with the classic Georgian style.

So exactly what is Georgian architecture, why is it so important at UNCW and is it practical for the university's future?

"Georgian architecture is a subset of classical architecture. It is the fusion of the high architectural styles of ancient Greece and the brilliance of Roman engineering," said James Ross, university architect.

Georgian architecture is marked by an emphasis on proportion and balance. Its symmetry is based on mathematical ratios.

According to the university's master plan, "throughout the campus, the predominant architectural style – from important buildings to lowly utility structures is Georgian. The overall consistency of brick fenestration and roof treatment provides one of the more memorable and pleasing aspects of campus."

"We continue the tradition of modified Georgian architecture to perpetuate the charm of our campus. We have a consistent, unified look, and newcomers comment favorably on that," said Ty Rowell, assistant to the chancellor for special projects and unofficial university historian.

When the 600 or so acres that are now the main campus were purchased in the late 1950s, architects were hired by the board of trustees to design the original three buildings, Hoggard, James and Alderman halls. The plans first presented were very modern. Trustees Fred Graham and

Raiford Trask opposed the modern architectural style and convinced the board to reject those plans in favor of a more classic, academic style.

“It took real vision to establish a Georgian college campus in the middle of what was then a commercial pine forest,” said Rowell.

In keeping with that vision, most buildings display classical elements that represent UNCW’s modified Georgian architectural style.

Columns, ubiquitous on campus, come in five main styles: Corinthian, Ionic, Doric, Temple of the Winds and Tuscan. Excellent examples of the elaborate Corinthian columns are found on Kenan House, while Temple of the Winds columns adorn Hoggard and Alderman halls. Wise Alumni House features Ionic columns, and Shinn Plaza is accented by the Doric version. The simpler Tuscan style is prevalent on newer buildings, including the Cultural Arts Building.

The classical, columnar structure that connects Morton and Leutze halls is sometimes referred to as “The Gates.” It was modeled after the Propylaea, a freestanding building which serves as the gateway to the Acropolis in Greece.

Andrea Palladio, a Renaissance architect whose work inspired some of the finest classical buildings in Europe and the United States, often used arched openings, and the Palladian window is named for him. Westside Hall and Fisher University Union feature brick arches, while buildings such as the Computer Information Systems Building display arched windows.

In colonial America, the most common Georgian building materials were brick and stone. Often, red brick walls were contrasted with white trim, cornices and detailed porticos. All major buildings on campus hearken back to those early

American traditions. Many also feature Flemish bond masonry. This short-long-short brick style creates a subtle yet elegant texture distinction over more ordinary brick styles.

While the key elements of Georgian architecture are easily identified and incorporated into university building designs, there has been considerable discussion about the ability to maintain the styles’ classic proportion and symmetry in buildings taller than two stories. Increasing building capacity through raising building heights while also reducing building footprints is necessary to best utilize available land and to use it in a more sustainable fashion.

According to Ross, it is not only possible to have modified Georgian buildings of more than two stories, there is historical precedent. He points to classic structures such as The Rotunda at the University of Virginia. Built in 1826, it is a stately – and multi-storied – academic building that originally housed the university’s library. St. Peter’s Basilica and Buckingham Palace are European examples of classical, yet multi-storied buildings.

Since the 1959 Wilmington College Board of Trustees established modified Georgian architecture as the style of this campus, it has taken the will of the chancellors and the strength of successive trustees to guide and maintain this consistency of design.

“It doesn’t happen by accident,” said Rowell. “It happens by determined will, vigilance and direction.”

Winston Churchill once said, “We shape our buildings, and afterwards our buildings shape us.” So while UNC Wilmington’s architecture echoes the classical, historical past, its programs and initiatives will take the lessons learned from the past to address the present and future needs of students, the state and the world.



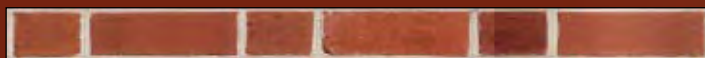
**Greek Corinthian
(Temple of the Winds)**



Doric



Tuscan



Flemish bond masonry

Ionic (Wise Alumni House)



A delicate balance: growth and natural resources

As it grows, the university must find a balance between development necessary to meet its primary academic mission and conservation efforts to protect its natural resources.

A report issued in May by the Campus Environmental Stewardship Committee recognized the importance of the university's natural resources to the campus and broader community.

"In many respects they are just as valuable as the buildings. In fact, our natural areas are critical to the educational mission of UNCW by providing a living classroom for many of our departments," the report stated.

The committee was formed by Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo in response to environmental concerns surrounding the health and management of natural areas and the growth of the university, particularly construction of Seahawk Crossing, four three-story residential buildings accommodating 662 students, and a four-level parking garage.

Before construction began, the university obtained all required state and local approvals and actually went beyond required measures, voluntarily embarking on a wildlife relocation project. Nine southeastern five-lined skinks, 51 southern toads, 77 wolf spiders and 261 North American millipedes were moved from the construction site into the adjacent undisturbed forest. Larger animals, such as foxes and birds, were expected to naturally move into the undisturbed area.

The committee studied the campus in general as well as 335 acres of natural areas including the main campus forest, the Bluethenthal Wildflower Preserve, the Ev-Henwood property in Brunswick County and the Broadfoot property along Middle Sound in New Hanover County.

Among the recommendations were:

- immediately addressing the importance of prescribed burns for forest management.
- establishing a core conservation area of forest on campus.
- developing and implementing a campus-wide storm water plan, with the possibility of using storm water for irrigation or to benefit wetlands.
- continuing opposition to any proposed extension of Randall Drive, as well as a city/county multi-use path transecting the forested area.

University administrators are reviewing the committee's recommendations. The full report is available online at **www.uncw.edu/sustainability**.

This committee is a subcommittee of the broader UNCW Sustainability Committee. Roger Shew, subcommittee co-chair and professor of geology and geography and environmental science, put the issues in sharp focus: "UNCW as a sustainable campus is certainly within reach if we can all work together."

by Brenda Riegel

Shawna Lesseur '08 came to UNCW with a keen interest in learning. Thanks to an inspiring professor, a visionary donor and a university program that supports undergraduate research, she discovered her dreams and made them a reality.

Literally researching her future

by Andrea Weaver



"UNCW is a place of endless opportunities thanks to the generous support of donors like Mr. Charles F. Green III '71," she said. "The faculty in the English department go above and beyond to help students be successful. UNCW prepared me for my future and helped me fight for my dreams."

Lesseur graduated in May as an accomplished scholar with a graduate teaching fellowship and full scholarship at the University of Connecticut.

Discovery: Literary research

Encouraged by English professor Keith Newlin, Lesseur delved into a thesis for the Departmental Honors Program, which gives undergraduates the chance to work with faculty on graduate level research projects in their major field.

She focused on the works of Eugene O'Neill (1888-1953), a four-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the only American playwright to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature. His best-known plays include *Mourning Becomes Electra* and *Long Day's Journey into Night*.

Opportunity: Scholarship, research and travel fellowships

Lesseur received the Louise Jackson Green Scholarship and the Michael D. Wentworth Student Travel Fellowship, created and funded by Green, a dedicated donor who supports 30 different funds at UNCW. She also benefited from the

Center for Support of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships (CSURF), funded by the university. (See sidebar for more information.)

"If it were not for the Louise Jackson Green scholarship, I may not have been able to graduate in the spring," Lesseur said. "That scholarship covered all of my college expenses and let me remain a full-time student."

The research and travel funds covered trips to England, Scotland and New England, including an American Literature Association (ALA) Conference in Boston.

"The various places I traveled to helped me appreciate the literature I am researching, the work of scholarship, and the passion of writing and teaching in unique ways," she said. "I developed a stronger sense of self confidence in diverse situations and an appreciation for cultures that I could never have learned from a classroom setting alone."

Reality: Dreams do come true

At the ALA conference, Lesseur met O'Neill scholar Robert Dowling, who later invited her to write four pieces for his encyclopedia, *A Critical Companion to Eugene O'Neill*.

"The research and travel fellowships and scholarship made my education," Lesseur said. "The honors experience made me feel like my degree truly symbolized a life achievement."

CSURF: Creating Waves of Opportunity for Students

www.uncw.edu/CSURF

"Offering students opportunities to participate in research and creative activities in their majors is a hallmark of UNCW and a key way that our university creates powerful learning environments." — Kate Bruce, director of the Honors Scholars Program and psychology professor

The CSURF Undergraduate Research Travel Fellowship

— 2007-08 funding from the university: \$35,000. Awards given: 77 to students in 13 departments. Goal: Help students visit locations relevant to their research and present their findings at conferences, symposiums, etc.

The CSURF Undergraduate Research Fellowship

— A prestigious program for juniors and seniors; approximately five to eight students receive awards each year. Renamed in May 2008 for Paul E. Hosier, former provost, biology professor and advocate for undergraduate research.

Other Activities — Co-sponsor, with Honors Scholars Program, of campus undergraduate research showcases and the Colonial Academic Alliance Undergraduate Research Conference in

April 2007; co-sponsor with the honors program to send students to a variety of research showcases; prepare professional-quality posters for students' presentations.

Entrepreneurial philanthropy

www.uncw.edu/advancement

"We don't have a cookie-cutter approach to fundraising at UNCW. We have a great willingness to partner with donors, to combine their ideas and our expertise to create something wonderful to benefit students." — *Eddie Stuart, senior development director*

The Michael D. Wentworth Student Travel Fellowship emerged from discussions between donor Charles Green and a former chair of the English department. They wanted to make literature more relevant to students by helping them travel to the locations where authors lived and wrote or the settings featured in their works.

Green wants his gifts to inspire in students "substantial and life-enriching" interests in literature, history, classical music and other subjects. In Lesseur's case, his generosity helped her find an avocation. She plans to become an English professor.

"I will always think of Mr. Green as family," she said. "He is truly interested in the research, travel, goals and lives of the students he helps."

Make a difference

Support from scholarships, fellowships and programs like CSURF make the UNCW experience extraordinary. Donors are a big part of that experience. Think about creating a legacy at UNCW. You will definitely make a difference in students' lives, now and in the years to come. Contact University Advancement at **910.962.3751** to discuss your gift ideas with a development officer.

GIVING MATTERS

Gift adds 'flavor' to aquarium project

Thanks to **Adam Mangino '01, '05M** the 2008 senior class gift graduated from a freshwater aquarium to a saltwater tank.

Mangino, a research and development specialist with Oceans, Reefs and Aquariums (ORA), heard about the project from his former biology and marine biology professor, Ileana Clavijo. ORA, based in Florida, seeks to conserve wild reef habitats and offer customers and hobbyists an aquaculture alternative to wild-collected fish.

"Providing the fish for the 2008 senior class gift project is a great way to give back to my alma mater and to educate students on the importance of buying aquacultured marine fish and corals," Mangino said. "It really means a lot to me and is a great way for me to honor my former professors, Dr. Clavijo and Dr. Wade Watanabe and my former employer, John Stout at Tropical Paradise." Tropical Paradise, based in Wilmington, is the aquarium vendor.

Chris Faulkner '08, senior class president, said "A saltwater tank is what the seniors really wanted but, due to cost constraints, we did not find it feasible. Adam's contribution is evidence that alumni support really does make a difference on our campus."

The 200-gallon aquarium is installed in Randall Library. More than 440 seniors contributed to the university this year, raising more than \$9,800 to support the aquarium and other areas on campus. The Student Government Association contributed \$3,500 to the aquarium project to offset the library's future maintenance costs.

Professorship to attract nursing faculty

A \$1 million endowed distinguished professorship was established in April to recruit and retain outstanding faculty for the School of Nursing.

Irwin "Ike" Belk, a Charlotte business executive and higher education advocate, contributed \$417,000, enabling the university to receive \$250,000 from the C.D. Spangler Foundation of Charlotte and \$333,000 from North Carolina's Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Fund, to endow the Irwin "Ike" Belk Distinguished Professorship.

"Nursing faculty are the key to solving the nursing shortage in North Carolina," said Virginia W. Adams, former dean of the UNCW School of Nursing. "The number of students that we may accept is directly related to the number of faculty we have. That's why Mr. Belk's gift is so critical."

Belk's contributions to UNC Wilmington include Bryan Auditorium in Morton Hall and a recently commissioned Seahawk statue for the campus. Work is underway to design and develop the statue by sculptor Jon Hair of Cornelius, N.C. Belk served 28 years on the governing boards of the UNC system; UNCW joined the system during his tenure. Belk Hall, a women's residence hall on campus, is named for his mother, Mary Lenora Irwin Belk.



by Andrea Weaver

UNCW Alumni Association: we're here for you

Staying involved with your alma mater is more than just reading this magazine, framing your diploma or even visiting campus for a ball game. It is about doing all of those things, and more, to maintain your connections to UNCW and to share your Seahawk spirit with classmates and friends. The alumni association invites you to stay involved with the university and gives you many opportunities to join other Seahawks to remember and celebrate the UNCW experience.

What's new for 2008-09?

Building partnerships on campus

– The UNCW Alumni Association wants to make sure alumni have many opportunities to interact with current students, faculty and staff when they return to campus for Fall Alumni Weekend and Homecoming. The alumni relations staff is working with departments across campus to team up for major events. The goal: to offer you a full slate of activities from a departmental reception or a Greek picnic to an alumni celebration.

Strengthening chapters and clubs

– To truly soar, the UNCW Alumni Association wants to expand its programs and services beyond campus. The goal: to bring the university's outstanding professors, coaches and students to your community and to give Seahawks a reason to gather no matter where they live.

Although our 48,000 alumni live in locales around the world, more than 10,000 reside in the Cape Fear region. Thousands of others have flocked to the Raleigh-Durham area, Greensboro and Charlotte. With such concentrations of Seahawks, the alumni association plans to focus on those areas first.

If you would like more information on chapters or alumni events in your area, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 910.962.2682.

Focusing on reunions – This year, the association plans to focus on creating several meaningful reunions for our alumni and friends. The goal: to bring you and your friends back to campus and to connect you with alumni who have similar interests in UNCW.

Interested in learning about future reunions? Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 910.962.2682.



stayconnected

In addition to this magazine, the university produces a monthly e-newsletter, "Seahawk Spotlight." To receive this publication, send your name and e-mail address to alumni@uncw.edu. As always, visit www.uncw.edu for the latest information on the university and www.uncw.edu/alumni for updates on alumni events, programs and services.

save the date

Fall Alumni Weekend/Family Weekend Oct. 17-18

The alumni association will hold its Fall Alumni Weekend in conjunction with Family Weekend. Make plans to visit campus – you won't believe how things have changed in just the past five years – for a weekend of games, activities and fun.

Homecoming 2009

The dates haven't been set yet, but you won't want to miss Homecoming 2009. If you only make it back to campus once a year, this is the time to come. Activities include basketball games, a Tealgate and the annual presentation of the UNCW Alumni Association Awards.

Office of Alumni Relations Wise Alumni House
University of North Carolina Wilmington
1713 Market Street, Wilmington, NC 28403-5906
910.962.2682 • 910.962.2685 (F)

Director Rob McInturf, mcinturf@uncw.edu

Assistant Director Lindsay Terry, terryl@uncw.edu

Alumni Relations Assistants: Tiffany Bowie '05, bowiet@uncw.edu and Crystal Chapman, chapmancl@uncw.edu

At first glance, **Tim Duncan '73** seems like an unlikely investor in a rock-and-roll park. He wears understated glasses and has neatly trimmed gray hair, but his heart beats to a risk-taker's drum.

An accountant who owns his own firm in Myrtle Beach, Duncan and other local financiers first thought of building a theme park a few years ago as they researched development ideas for large tracts of property they owned along U.S. 501 near the coast. They teamed up with Hard Rock Café International (USA) Inc., broke ground in July 2006 and opened the 55-acre, \$400 million park less than two years later in late April.

With eye-catching design – from an enormous Gibson guitar beside the lake and Led Zeppelin - The Ride's 120-foot loop to the “gods of rock” fresco in the entry plaza – and big-name musical acts – Kid Rock, Sister Hazel and grand opening headliners the Eagles and the Moody Blues – a day at Hard Rock Park promises to be a memorable experience.

The park includes more than 50 rides and attractions, many equipped with state-of-the-art technology; it is the first major theme park constructed in the United States in nearly a decade.



Duncan is a member of the UNCW Foundation Board of Directors and the father of senior Ginny Duncan. He doesn't have a favorite ride or restaurant or shop. Instead, he is proud of the entire park, which could bring as many as 3,000 jobs to the area.

by Andrea Weaver

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

1960s

Marion W. Piner '60 and his wife Ladee are musicians with the DM Concert Band. They reside in Urbandale, Iowa.

1970s

Kenneth H. Hemenway II '77 and **Peggy Hill Hemenway '77** both retired from Wayne County Public Schools in 2007.

1980s

Phil Robinson '80 is employed by Sawgrass Technologies Inc. in Mount Pleasant, S.C., as project leader for developing new ink products.

Lou Ann Mims '81, '03M is the director of the Wrightsville Beach Museum of History.

David S. Lee '82 completed a self-directed study of the Hawaiian Islands, focusing on tropical fish behavior, humpback whale breeding grounds and catching a few waves. He is the regional permit coordinator for the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources in Raleigh.

After more than 20 years working as an addictions counselor in Wilmington, **JoAnne Macco Likens '82** began a private practice in counseling and hypnotherapy, specializing in smoking cessation, weight loss, stress management and relationship issues. The Web site for Serenity Counseling and Hypnotherapy is www.serenityquest.net.

Sherry L. Matthews '82 is general manager of *The Sampson Independent*, a daily newspaper in eastern North Carolina. She is writing a novel based on a murder that occurred in Clinton in the 1980s.

Vertha Dixon-Wright '83 was the 2008 recipient of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association's Pat Gainey Award, which recognizes excellence in character, achievement and coaching. She is head coach of the girl's basketball team at New Hanover High School.

Deborah Roseboro Lorris '83 graduated in May 2007 with a Master of Science in Nursing from the Medical University of South Carolina College of Nursing. She is a registered nurse at the Medical University of South Carolina Hospital.

Jackie Nichols '84, an English teacher at Laney High School in Wilmington, was one of four Teachers of the Month who in February 2008 were given a new Chevrolet Malibu, along with free gas fill-ups, for one month.

A meteorologist with NASA, **Sterling Ashby '85** received a commendation from the Johnson Space Center for Outstanding Weather Support during the space shuttle landing in April 2008.

John A. Lasley '85 of Pembroke Pines, Fla., works for Science Applications International Corporation in support of U.S. Southern Command requirements and activities throughout Central and South America. He also owns a security consulting firm that provides a wide range of aerial and ground surveillance consulting to

contractors, the U.S. Department of Defense and foreign governments.

Cdr. **John E. Pasch '86** achieved Level III Certification as a Department of Defense acquisition professional program manager.

Alex Smith '86 was appointed branch manager of OTC-Glasgow Hicks Insurance Agency.

Tracy Mills Barnard '87 is the co-owner of Bon-Bons Jewelry in Greensboro and is happy that her son Erik will be attending UNCW in the fall.

James C. Dean '87 completed the Certified Financial Planner course offered through the UNCW Cameron School of Business in May 2007 and was awarded the CFP® designation in October 2007. He is an investment management consultant with Raymond James Financial Services in Wilmington and works with his brother, **Tracy Dean '90**.

Jeffrey Rogers '87 is a third- and fourth-grade math remediation teacher at Liberty Elementary School in Randolph County. He is pursuing a master's degree in education at North Carolina A&T University.

Todd L. Brady '88 is a church planter in Fayetteville and the lead pastor of The River Community Church. His wife Angela is a broker with World Properties International and children's ministry director at The River.

Paul Verzaal '88 is a fraud and arson investigator for the Wilmington Police Department and also performs polygraph examinations. He is a member of the American Polygraph Association, N.C. International Association of Arson Investigators and the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators.

Sheila Whitmeyer '88 is a first-grade teacher assistant at Anderson Elementary School in Wilmington. She is also an independent beauty consultant with Mary Kay Cosmetics.

Kevin T. Colaner '89 is the associate vice president for student services at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He was profiled in Kirk Snyder's book, *The G Quotient: Why Gay Executives Are Excelling as Leaders and What Every Manager Needs to Know*.

Kimberly Tuttle Gray '89 is the principal of Don D. Steed Elementary School in Raeford.

James E. Richardson '89 is the Birmingham, Ala., market president for Wachovia.

Jay Wolfe '89 is director of research with Legacy Sports Group in Newport Beach, Calif. His duties include baseball contract analysis, historical statistical analysis and arbitration case preparation.

1990s

First Flight High School principal **Arty Tillett '90** was named Northeast Region 2008 Wachovia Principal of the Year in the annual recognition sponsored by the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, the Principal's Executive Program and Wachovia Corp.

Linda Porter Good '91 added music to her teaching license and now teaches about 1,000 K-5 students at Melvin Honeycutt Elementary School in Fayetteville.

David Scott '91 is a community counseling program coordinator and assistant professor at Clemson University.

Michael Williams '91 was promoted to captain with the Cary Police Department and serves as commander for the Investigations and Family Service Division. **Marsha Jones Williams '94** is a regional accountant with Gypsum Management Company.

Brian Farmer '92, president of advisory services at Coldwell Banker Commercial TradeMark Properties, received the 2008 Silver Circle of Distinction award. The award is based on closed adjusted gross commission income for the previous year and presented to Coldwell Banker Commercial sales associates nationwide.

Kirsten Geiger Michel '92 started her own business as destination planner and writer.

Robert E. Sherry '92 is an insurance fraud surveillance investigator with Global Options Group, serving the East Coast from New York to Florida. He is an expert in surveillance and undercover tactics.

Alden P. Blake '93 is a technical recruiter with TEKsystems, and **Shelly Read Blake '95** is an attorney with Blake and Vernon. They reside in Raleigh.

John "Herge" Blake '93 is the branch manager for Robert Half International's Officeteam and Accountemps Divisions in Greensboro.

Jeffrey B. Rivenbark '93 is the television news assignment manager with WBTV News 3 in Charlotte.

Christopher S. Casieri '94M of Titusville, N.J., is an associate in the Intellectual Property Law Group with the law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A.

Patrick Kay '94 is a manager of Accenture, a global leader of consulting, outsourcing and strategy work. He resides in Huntersville.

Ganon Baker '95 is the owner of Ganon Baker Basketball Services and travels worldwide conducting personal and team training as well as camps and clinics. He has more than 25 top-selling basketball DVDs focused on drills and basketball training techniques. His Web site is www.ganonbakerbasketball.com.

Jay E. Barker '95, owner and president of the J.E.B. International Tobacco Co., was recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of business administration.

Thomas E. Hancock '95M will complete his Ph.D. in biology at Wake Forest University during summer 2008. He is a visiting biology instructor at Salem College.

Livian Jones '95M was named vice president of John S. Clark Company, LLC. She will oversee business acquisitions out of the Mount Airy-based general construction company's Wilmington office.

Carlton V. Metts '95 was promoted to center supervisor for the City of New Bern Parks and Recreation Department.

Laura R. Owen '95 is homeschooling her three children and is a pianist for Trinity Baptist Church in Fayetteville, where her husband Joshua is pastor. In May 2008, he defended his Doctorate of Divinity from Southeastern Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

F. Glenn Pleasant '95 is the first through fifth grade administrator at Myrtle Grove Christian School, where his wife, **Angela Pridgen Pleasant '95**, teaches sixth grade science and advanced math, and their two children are enrolled.

Donna Hentosh Williams '95, '00M opened Fitwize 4 Kids, a healthy lifestyle center for kids combining fitness and nutrition in the Leland area. **J. Daniel Williams '96** is vice president/business banker with Woodlands Bank.

Chris Bartosik '96 is the manager of application development with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. He and his wife, **Dana Warwick Bartosik '97**, reside in Cary.

Cpt. **Jones H. Blakely III '96** was deployed as a combat advisor to the Afghan National Army in Afghanistan.

Lisa Witmer Hedgecock '96 is pursuing a Master of Science degree in post secondary and adult education at Capella University. She works in customer service and sales with Citigroup in McLeansville.

Shannon L. Hillard '96 and **Jesse C. Gaither '96** have purchased a historic mini-farm in Oregonia, Ohio. Shannon handles national accounts for Crate Farm, and Jesse is the vice president of operations for Wilson Buildings.

A former tennis player, **Eric Johnson '96** is still active in state and regional tournaments. He works in sales with Europa Sports Products.

Gregory Leimone '96 is the regional operations/sales manager for Elsas North America Law Enforcement Systems, the leading manufacturer of Automated License Plate Recognition.

Gabe Salazar '96, '06M is a bilingual clinician at Coastal Horizons' Pender County office, which offers substance abuse and mental health counseling for Hispanics.

Christian Pace Verzaal '96 is an ice skating instructor and marketing assistant.

Tony '97 and **Jennifer DiLullo Butler '95** established Hope from Helen Inc., a non-profit charity that supports local and global organizations dedicated to health, education, animals, the environment and individuals and families in need. In addition, the couple owns/operates www.wblivesurf.com. Every July they sponsor the nationally recognized Reef/Sweetwater Pro-Am Surf Fest.

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SCHOOL AFFILIATED ALUMNI GROUPS

Cameron School of Business Chapter
Sarah Hall Cain '99, '05M

Communications Studies Chapter
Steve Nelson '06

Watson School of Education Chapter
Jeanne Harmon '01

OTHER ALUMNI GROUPS

Crew Club

Curt Browder '81

Jennifer Tripplett '97

Past Chair's Council

Tom Lamont '80



Oliver-Kurton



Bifalco



Budzinski



Fullerton



McSpadden



Pleasant

ALUMNOTES



Cruz



Chambers



Colton



Pace

Kia Hendrix Countess '97 graduated from Walden University in April 2008 with a Master of Science in Nursing. She is a registered nurse with Intelistaf and resides in Huntsville, Ala.

Kathleen King McMillan '97 retired in June 2007 from teaching with the Onslow County Schools. She now tutors part-time and enjoys time with her grandchildren. **Edward S. McMillan '95** is an ATM deposit puller with Pendum.

A certified yoga instructor, **Loryn Schiraldo '97** is an account director with Aquent in New York, N.Y.

Rhonda Teachey Thompson '97 is a registered nurse for Hanover Medical Specialists.

Kara Fuchs Gansmann '98 graduated in May 2007 from the University of North Dakota School of Law, earning a Juris Doctor degree with distinction. She is a briefing attorney for the State of Texas 14th Court of Appeals in Houston.

Summer Watson Taylor '98 is the lead dog/creative director for Good Dog/Bad Dog Creative Design Inc. in Brandon, Fla.

Jennifer K. Bell '99M is an assistive technology specialist for Clark County Schools in Kentucky.

Dawn Hodges '99, language arts teacher at Wilmington Academy of Arts and Sciences, was a finalist for Outstanding Teacher of the Gifted Award by the N.C. Association for the Gifted and Talented. Hodges is the co-founder of WAAS.

JoAnna S. Mayer '99 is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Duke University.

Holly Higgins Wilcher '99 is the early childhood mental health educator with the Smart Start Colorado Office of Professional Development in Denver.

2000s

Jennifer Owens Durham '00 graduated in May 2008 from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill with a Master of Public Health leadership degree. **David Durham '00** is an associate pastor with First Baptist Church of Elon.

Gilbert A. Payette '00 volunteers as a naturalist at the Sabine Canyon Recreational Area of the Santa Catalina Mountains in the Coronado National Forest. He also is a storyteller and spirit program provider for Canyon Ranch Resort. His Web site is www.storyteller.net/tellers/gpayette.

Ioulia Koukourouzova Boxley '01 is the owner and area director of Club Z! In-Home Tutoring Services in New Hanover County.

William Edgar Jr. '01, vice president and commercial loan officer with First Carolina State Bank, is the first recipient of the Weldone "Red" Kimball Award given to employees whose hard work and dedication is judged by management to be exemplary.

Erica Livingston '01 had the lead role in the first national tour of the sketch comedy, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*.

Danielle Becktame Richaret '01 is the co-founder of the non-profit Sustainable Schools Initiative.

John P. Van Zandt IV '01 teaches English at a local private high school, Sagrados Corazones de Manquehue, in Santiago, Chile.

Charles Beckwith '02 directed *Three Wishes*, part of the Curan Repertory Company's Notes from the Underground Festival at the Payan Theater in the Roy Arias Theatre Center, New York City. He is an editorial photographer in the fashion industry and is producing a photography-focused radio series called Light and Gravity. His Web site is www.charles-beckwith.com.

Charles C. Blanton '02 was elected to a second term as president of the Young Democrats of New Hanover County and serves as vice chair for youth development with the New Hanover County Democratic Party. He is a sales account manager with Castle Branch Inc.

Gregory G. Eppard '02 graduated in May 2008 from the UNC School of Medicine and will specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

Zach A. Galloway '02 earned status in the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and is a planner for the City of Tallahassee.

John Rogers '02 is an applications developer with Signal, a design, marketing and technology firm in Wilmington.

Shared journey different paths

by Emily Jones '09

The journey for **J.R. and Peggy Shute** began 25 years ago while they were students at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Their shared passion for aquatic life led the couple to work with rare freshwater fishes in Lake Waccamaw and guided them into a lifelong dedication to the preservation of imperiled fishes throughout the Southeast.



After they graduated from UNCW in 1977 with bachelor's degrees in biology, they followed different paths of aquatic work, yet both remained devoted to preserving endangered species.

"I can't imagine doing anything else at this point. Much of this work requires years to see any real results, so a brief commitment is not very practical anyway!" J.R. stated.

He became involved in an endangered fish restoration project in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which ultimately lead to the development of a non-profit organization in 1992, Conservation Fisheries. The group's mission is to restore fish populations that have been destroyed due to pollution or habitat destruction. Today the organization includes a 5,000 sq. ft. hatchery in Knoxville, Tenn., which is dedicated to propagating rare and endangered fishes. The association also surveys local streams and rivers to monitor the health of rare fish populations and produces an electronic newsletter that educates the public on their aquatic endeavors.

"Conservation Fisheries has been instrumental in the recovery of several rare and endangered fishes in the southeastern U.S. The restoration of three federally protected fishes in Abrams Creek in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park would have to rank pretty high as one of our greatest accomplishments," J.R. said.

The organization has assisted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Forest Service, World Wildlife Fund and Nature Conservancy in their efforts to protect endangered wildlife. Policy makers use its widely recognized, non-invasive monitoring techniques to refine water quality standards for rivers and streams throughout the U.S. The association is continuing to work on restoring additional fishes in other streams.

It has won several awards throughout the years including the 2007 National Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Award, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the 2006 River Champions Award, Tennessee Clean Water Network.

Peggy Shute took a different route in her dedication to aquatic life.

She is the manager of the Tennessee Valley Authority Heritage Resources, which is responsible for TVA's compliance with the Endangered Species Act and wetlands regulations and the National Environmental Policy Act. They assess the potential environmental impacts of proposed TVA projects and operations, help identify lands appropriate for inclusion in the TVA Natural Areas system (help in managing those natural areas), and monitor populations of endangered species found on TVA lands.

For her constant dedication and support she received two excellence awards: the 2007 Environmental Excellence Award for Management Commitment and the 2007 Environmental Excellence of the Year Award.

J.R. and Peggy Shute have dedicated their lives to the aquatic world, to which they have both been deeply devoted for countless years. They continue to rescue, restore, and protect endangered species everyday with the same amount of passion they shared when they were students at UNCW.



Amber McCormick '02 received Certified Financial Planner® certification in 2007. She is a financial planning consultant with Fidelity Investments in Charlotte.

Erin Watkins '02 is the national accounts coordinator with Verizon Wireless in Wilmington.

Mary Lee Whitfield '02 received a master's degree in elementary education from East Carolina University as well as a license to teach academically gifted children. She is a kindergarten teacher with Duplin County Schools.

Grant W. Foster '03 is enrolled in the Gemological Institute of America in Carlsbad, Calif.

Rocky Mount Telegram sports editor **Ben Jones '03** and his staff, which includes **Jessie H. Nunery '03**, received second-place honors for overall sports coverage at the N. C. Press Association's 2007 news, editorial and photojournalism contest.

Rena Lopez Harris '03 is a health educator with the State of North Carolina.

Christin Mizelle '03 graduated in May 2008 with a Master of Fine Arts in film and television producing from Chapman University in Orange County, Calif.

Adrienne Parker '03 is the family services and volunteer coordinator with Habitat for Humanity of Goldsboro-Wayne County.

Belinda F. Simmons '03 teaches first grade at Lincoln Elementary School in Leland.

Abbey Wade '03 completed work on the feature film *The 27 Club*, which made its international debut at New York City's Tribeca Film Festival. She lives in Davidson with her husband **Garrett Droege '02** and son Henry.

Brandon Williams '03 is a mortgage loan officer with NC Bank Mortgage, a division of New Century Bank, in Clinton.

Ross C. Adams '04 was one of four New Hanover County Teachers of the Month who in February 2008 were given a new Chevrolet Malibu, along with free gas fill-ups, for one month. He teaches mathematics at Ashley High School.

Rebecca Brasso '04 is teaching at Randolph Community College after earning a Master of Science degree at the College of William and Mary. She is a co-author of the article "The Movement of Aquatic Mercury Through Terrestrial Food Webs" due to be published in *Science*, a research publication.

Kristen Brigner '04 is a park ranger at Goose Creek State Park. Her responsibilities include law enforcement as well as educating groups about the environment.

Kimberly Hills Carpenter '04 is pursuing a Ph.D. in neurobiology at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. **Eric Carpenter '02** is employed with Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Chapel Hill.

Janice Ragins Cooper '04 is the marketing administrator for Mid-Illini Credit Union in Bloomington, Ill.

Erika S. Veth '04 graduated in May 2008 with a Master of Arts degree in English literature from the University of Alaska Anchorage. She is working at the university as an adjunct faculty.

Elizabeth H. Boreaux '05 earned a master's degree in history from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in 2007 and is pursuing a master's degree in library science at North Carolina Central University. She is a pre-GED test and prep instructor at Cape Fear Community College.

Cam Connelly '05 is a field underwriter with Hughes & Associates Insurance Agency. His Web site is CamConnelly.mymedicalquotes.com.

Joanne M. Gold '05 is enrolled in pharmacy school at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Jackie Harmon '05 is an oyster restoration specialist with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Phillip A. Maxwell '05 was promoted to national training manager for the Home Depot account with General Electric Appliances in Louisville, Ky.

Terry Thorpe Rose '05 graduated in May 2008 with a Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Bethany S. Smith '05 of Kernersville is in Albania working with health education professionals and local teachers to promote preventative health education and introduce new teaching techniques and methods.

A sixth grade teach at Shallotte Middle School, **Michelle Bennett '06M** was named Brunswick County Schools' Teacher of the Year.

Daniel Bifalco '06 will head the new Market Street Advisors office at Cape Fear Bank's Pine Valley branch. He is also an SEC-Registered Series 7 Representative.

James R. Hinkson '06M is an academic advisor in the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member with the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith Department of History.

Katherine Miller '06 is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Columbia Theological Seminary. This summer she is an intern at Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church.

Melissa C. Oliver '06, a teacher with Johnston County Schools, received National Board Certification in December 2007.

Kai Oliver-Kurton '06 received a Silver Wing Award and a Silver Wing of Merit in the 2008 Mercury Awards for outstanding tactics used in public relations, presented by the South Carolina Public Relations Society of America. She is employed by Arcadia Publishing.

Rubyann Rodriguez '06 is pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree at East Carolina University.

Matt Colloghan '07 is the environmental education coordinator at Airlie Gardens.

Sarah B. Rose '07 is enrolled in the Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University.

Megan Walter '07 is an account executive in the marketing and advertising department of the Catevo Group in Raleigh.

Weddings

Gayle Hayes '85 and Ronald Woodcock on April 5, 2008. Gayle teaches business to sixth, seventh and eighth graders at Cape Fear Middle School.

Harry D. May II '87 and Lisa Land May on April 28, 2007. Harry is a pilot with Spirit Airlines. The couple resides in Raleigh.

Carmel Kenny '89 and Al Muncey on Jan. 11, 2008. Carmel is a social services coordinator for Heartland of Columbia.

Melissa A. Budzinski '94 and Darrell S. Coleman on Sept. 2, 2006. Melissa is a clinical services manager for Diamond Healthcare Corporation, a behavioral health management company in Richmond, Va.

Shannon C. Davis '94 and **Brian H. Cruz '96** on April 14, 2007. She is an account executive with WFMV TV in Greensboro, and he is store manager of a Starbucks in Elon. Joining them at the ceremony were George Kelley '92, '93, Tim Cordes '91, '97, Erin Isley Cordes '99, Angie Brooks-Comer '93 and Ryan Finch '96.

Kathleen Phelps '97 and Michael Bove on Dec. 15, 2007. Kathleen is an account executive for McClatchey Broadcasting.

Wendy E. Worsley '00 and Dennis A. Fullerton Jr. on May 10, 2008. They reside in Leland.

Margaret Conner '01 and Cameron Park on June 11, 2007. Margaret was promoted to logistics call center manager at La-Z-Boy and is certified as a supply chain professional. The couple resides in Dearborn, Mich.

Richard Truxillo '01 and Patty Spera on March 30, 2008. The couple resides in Roanoke, Va., where Richie is a resident physician at Carrillion Hospital.

Stephanie D. Brooks '02 and Jason P. Hawver on March 29, 2008. Stephanie is a Master of Fine Arts degree candidate at the University of North Texas.

Lindsey Campbell '02 and **Michael Holmes '04** on Sept. 2, 2007.

Julie Patterson '02 and Chad Landen on Nov. 7, 2007. Julie is an enrollment services assistant at Forsyth Technical Community College.

Melissa Reid '02 and **Trevor A. Smith '04** on April 14, 2007.

Brian Chambers '03 and Dana Metz on April 19, 2007. Brian is a planner for the City of Wilmington.

Sara M. Ellis '03 and Tom Sanborn on April 14, 2007. Sara was promoted to lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard. They reside in Jefferson, La.

Samantha Sanderlin '04 and Jarrod Page on Sept. 15, 2007. Samatha is a financial services officer with the State Employees Credit Union.

Rebecca Hergenroeder '05 and **Byron "Trey" King III '03** on Nov. 3, 2007. Trey is a sales agent with BB&T, and Rebecca is a registered nurse in the surgical/trauma intensive care unit at UNC Healthcare.

Martha M. Roth '05 and **Raymond T. Gephart III '06** on May 10, 2008.

Christy L. Chambers '06 and Cpl. Fredrick L. Willard on July 21, 2007. The couple resides in Raleigh.

William Swain '06 and Rebekah Cavanaugh on Nov. 17, 2007.

Alexis M. Trask '06 and **David B. Bostic '99** on May 3, 2008. Alexis is a registered nurse in the emergency department at New Hanover Regional Medical Center. David is a licensed contractor and operates Bostic Building Corporation.

Jessica M. Ingham '07 and **Daniel L. Joyner '05** on July 7, 2007. Jessica is the coordinator of advancement services with the Campbell University School of Pharmacy, and Daniel is the minister of families at Mt. Elam Baptist Church.

Births

To **Kimberly Holzer Larsen '86, '88M** and her husband Donald, a son, Daniel Hawthorne, on March 7, 2007. Kimberly is a fisheries biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, Western Fisheries Research Center, in Seattle.

To **Chris '88** and **Carol Shooter Redmond '90**, a daughter, Taylor, on June 8, 2007. The couple's business, After School Karate Academy, offers daily karate instruction and academic tutoring for kindergarten through fifth grade in Wilmington.

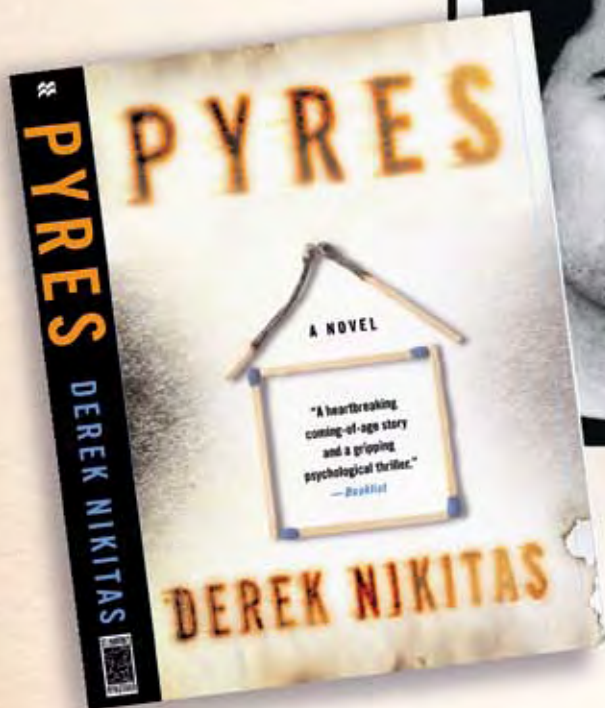
To **Deborah Jones Bowen '92** and her husband Chris, a son, Cole, on Aug. 25, 2007. Deborah is a kindergarten teacher with Wake County Schools.

To **Cheryl Barela Fekete '92** and her husband Michael, a son, Matthew Ryan on Feb. 11, 2008. Cheryl is a senior clinical project manager with ICON Clinical Research in Durham.

To **Christine Bricker Murphy '92** and her husband Rob, a daughter, Logan Nicole, on Aug. 15, 2007. Christine is an attorney with Gordon & Silver, Ltd. in Las Vegas, Nev.

To **William J. Wilson Jr. '92** and his wife Lindsay, twin sons, Benjamin Parker and Joseph Whitmire, on April 9, 2008.

To **James H. Ramsey '92** and his wife Carla, a daughter, Alexandra Elizabeth, on Sept. 9, 2007. James is a supervisor for Southeastern Freight Lines in Raleigh.



Dozens of students have become superior word crafters through UNCW's creative writing master's program. They have written several books and received prestigious literary awards. One prime example of the talent that emerges from this stellar program is **Derek Nikitas '00**, author of *Pyres*, which was nominated for the prestigious 2008 Edgar Award in the category of Best First Novel by an American Author. *by Emily Jones '09*

First-time novelist nominated for Edgar Award

The Edgar Awards, named for the famed author Edgar Allen Poe, are presented annually by the Mystery Writers of America. They honor mystery writers in fiction, non-fiction, film, TV and theatre. The awards were presented on May 1 in New York.

"I'm a devout pessimist. When I get good news, I can't help assuming there's been a mistake. I know just how many debut mystery books are more deserving than mine for this honor, but the judges have their proclivities. I'll be clapping vigorously when one of the other four nominees is announced the winner on May first," stated Nikitas, who unfortunately did not receive the award.

Wendy Brenner, professor in the UNCW creative writing department and Nikitas' mentor, realized immedi-

ately his natural-born talent for writing. When she received his first writing assignment she thought it was brilliant and knew his writing would reach national readership. She believes *Pyres* intrigues readers because it is so beautifully and intimately written.

"This novel is like a dream that haunts you in the daytime, masquerading as a memory of real events, its diverse cast of characters so vividly and intimately portrayed that you will begin to see them everywhere," she stated. "It is not only the concentrated beauty and unrelenting lyricism of Nikitas's language that ensnares the reader, but his unflinching immersion into the unlit corners of the human heart and conscience."

Nikitas was born in Manchester, N.H., and raised in Rochester, N.Y. He

earned his bachelor's degree in English from State University of New York Brockport. Several of his short works have appeared in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and other magazines. He has also been featured in a book length anthology *Killer Year*. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in English from Georgia State University in Atlanta.

Several other graduates of the creative writing program have gone forth to write published pieces of literature. They include Brian Devido, author of *Every Time I Talk to Liston*, a fiction novel about boxing; Kristen Holmstedt, *Band of Sisters*, a documentary of women in combat; and Cindy Horrell Ramsey, *Boys of the Battleship North Carolina*, a narrative of the World War II battleship through the eyes of the sailors that manned the ship.

ALUMNOTES

To **John '93** and **Jennifer Olson Bryant '94**, a daughter, Kateylin, on Dec. 21, 2007. Jennifer is a programmer analyst for AAA Auto Club South.

To **Timothy K. Otto '93** and his wife Catherine, a son, Andrew Timothy, on Jan. 14, 2008. Tim is a Certified Financial Planner® practitioner with Morgan Stanley in Raleigh.

To **Scott Tierney '93** and his wife Heide Kalinowski, a daughter, Cali, on Sept. 7, 2007. Scott is an athletics/fitness director with Palos Heights Recreation Department in Illinois.

To **Chad '94** and **Sheri North Ayers '98**, a daughter, Kate, on April 30, 2007. Sheri is a registered nurse and Chad is a paramedic. Both are employed by New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

To **Clark '94** and **Laura Fisher McQueen '97**, a son, Samuel, on Dec. 22, 2007. Clark is a medical sales specialist with Endo Pharmaceuticals, and Laura is a nurse anesthetist with New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

To **Natalie King Price '94, '00M** and her husband Jason, a daughter, Carson Butler, on Dec. 19, 2007. Natalie is the president of JBC Developers Inc.

To **Wesley Vaughn '94** and his wife Andrea, a son, Andrew Vaughn, on April 22, 2007. Wesley is a sales manager with Camco Manufacturing.

To **Vickie Wilkinson Barnes '95** and her husband John, a daughter, Ella Frances, on March 21, 2008. Vickie is a teacher at Vance Charter School in Henderson.

To **Charlie H. '95, '96M** and **Terry Basnight Dail '95**, a son, Charles Cameron, on June 9, 2007. Charlie is an assistant North Carolina state auditor, and Terry is a controller for N.C. State Ports.

To **Tracy Silver Pittman '95** and her husband Kelly, a son, G. Kelly, on Oct. 29, 2007. Tracy is a project manager with PPD Inc.

To **Bryan S. Martin '96** and his wife Jennifer, a daughter, Kaitlyn, on Jan. 19, 2007. Bryan is a database/visual basic analyst with United Healthcare in Minneapolis, Minn.

To **Kevin L. '97M** and **Barbi Hoff Barber '97**, a daughter, Laine Winifred, on April 22, 2007. Barbi is a senior director and Kevin is an accounting manager; both are employed by PPD Inc.

To **Paul Calton '97** and his wife Meredith, a daughter, Morgan-Kate, on Jan. 24, 2008. Paul is the territory manager with Gregory Poole Equipment Co. in Raleigh.

To **Lewis D. Conner Jr. '97** and his wife Marie, a son, Grant Phillip, on May 11, 2007. Lewis is a sales representative for PrimeSource Building Products.

To **Mandie Dums Condie '97** and her husband Stuart, a son, Noah Robert, on April 14, 2007. Mandie is a group exercise coordinator with the YMCA in Harrisburg, N.C.

To **Dan '97** and **Erin Gough Dove '96**, a son, James, on March 30, 2007.

To **Mark Foxx '97** and his wife Katie, a daughter, Campbell Ann, on Nov. 11, 2007. The family resides in Havre de Grace, Md.

To **Paul "PK" Kalish '97** and his wife Robin, a daughter, Samantha Brooke, on Dec. 19, 2007. PK is a park ranger employed by N.C. State Parks.

To **Margaret Merrill Britt '98** and her husband Ronnie, a son, Grady Bryan, on Oct. 13, 2007.

To **Amy Bullock Pace '98** and her husband Thomas, a daughter, Avery June, on April 23, 2007.

To **Jonathan Faires '98** and his wife Christa, a son, Brennan Russell, on March 2, 2007. Jonathan is the band director for Widefield School District No. 3 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

To **Andrew Onofrio '98** and his wife Daniella, a daughter, Isabella Arteaga, on March 26, 2008. Andrew is the president of Onofrio Construction Inc. in Raleigh.

To **Lori Parker Sharpe '98** and her husband Matt, a daughter, Sadie Bliss, on Feb. 23, 2008. Lori is a second-grade teacher at McGee's Crossroads Elementary School in Johnston County.

To **Christopher L. James '99** and his wife Piret Roosimae, twins, Tristan Kai and Allegra Liis, on Aug. 5, 2007. Chris is the associate director for the Sequoyah Fund Inc. in Cherokee.

To **Kristy Oakley Long '99** and her husband Jimmy, a daughter, Baylee Rae, on Dec. 12, 2007. Kristy is a clinical research coordinator III at Duke University Medical Center.

To **Jason E. McLeod '99** and his wife Mary Kathleen, a son, Jason Andrew, on Jan. 10, 2008. Jason is a commercial real estate broker for Maus, Warwick, Matthews & Company in Wilmington.

To **Leslie Rogers Moore '99** and her husband Troy, a son, Scott Wilson, on July 31, 2007.

To **Benjamin Romeiser '99** and his wife Mina Takasu, a daughter, Maren, on Dec. 16, 2007. Ben is a tax manager with Deloitte Tax, LLP in Raleigh.

To **Tammy Dozier Scott '99** and her husband Barry, a daughter, Camille Justine, on March 1, 2008. Tammy is a licensed practical nurse at Autumn Care of Myrtle Grove.

To **Amy Gerry Smith '99** and her husband Barry, a son, Ethan Barry, on Feb. 22, 2008. Amy is an associate for Stradley, Ronon, Stephens and Young in Philadelphia.

To **Charlie Stack '99, '04M** and **Mackenzie Underwood '99**, a daughter, Marin, on Jan. 22, 2008. Charlie is a senior marketing manager for HanesBrands Inc., and Mackenzie is an investment analyst for Wachovia.

To **Parker '99** and **Susanna Rabon Stevens '01**, a daughter, Isabella Noelle, on March 15, 2008. The couple owns Sea Path Examinations Inc. and lives in Wilmington.

To **Richard '99** and **Christine Hobbs Tuttle '99**, a daughter, Bayley, on Dec. 28, 2007.

To **Stephanie Winslow Walters '99M** and her husband William, twins, William Brannon and Charles Winslow, on March 28, 2007. Stephanie is a professional sales representative for Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals in New Jersey.

To **Mary Currier Williams '99** and her husband David, a son, Colson, on Feb. 8, 2008. They reside in Midlothian, Va.

To **Chris Cadwallader '00** and his wife Suzanne, a son, Harrison, on Sept. 19, 2007. Chris is a production manager with Timmerman Manufacturing.

To **Chad '00** and **Andrea Aiken-Spargue Corbin '99**, a son, Ryan Chase, on July 13, 2007. Chad is an operations manager for Ferguson Enterprises.

To **Karl '00** and **Jennifer Jones Pleasant '00**, a son, Reece Anthony on Nov. 24, 2007.

To **Aran Kagan '00** and his wife Holli, a son, Noah Issac, on Aug. 11, 2007.

To **Karl '00** and **Wendy Darling Pittard '00**, a daughter, Sarah Madison, on Oct. 30, 2007. Karl is a chemist with BASF. The Pittards reside in Lake Jackson, Texas.

To **Nicole Roma Thurrell '00** and her husband Adam, a son, Levi Bodhi, on Aug. 8, 2008. Nicole is the associate director of admissions at the Academy of Swift River/Aspen Education Group in Cummington, Mass.

To **Jeff '00, '01M** and **Joanna Lakas Wise '00**, a son, Colton Riley, on April 28, 2008.

To **Raymond '01** and **Heather Harvey Congo '01**, a son, Slade Alexander, on June 5, 2007. Heather is an instructor at Wallace State Community College in Tanner, Ala.

To **Dawn Haedt Glasier '01** and her husband Chad, a son, Gavin Mickey, on July 3, 2007. The couple resides in North Richard Hills, Texas.

To **Caroline Wilkes Hanemann '01** and her husband Craig, a son, Charles Robert, on Aug. 4, 2007.

To **Robert W. Lomax '01** and his wife Stacy, a daughter, Mackenzie, on April 10, 2007. Bert is a biostatistician with AAI Pharma Inc.

To **Melissa Gray Quick '01M** and her husband Wesley, a daughter, Marley Savannah, on Feb. 14, 2007.

To **Lloyd '01** and **Windy Mizell Willis '99**, a son, Owen Elliott, on April 11, 2007. Lloyd is an assistant professor of English at Lander University.

To **Audra Burton Hodges '02** and her husband Robert, a daughter, Anna Grace, on Jan. 1, 2008. Anna was the first baby born at Durham Regional Hospital for 2008. Audra is a research data manager with Rho Inc. in Chapel Hill.

To **Melissa Smith Wilson '02** and her husband Bryan, a son, Tyler Bryce, on July 26, 2007. Melissa is a behavior specialist for Pender County Schools.

To **Adam '03** and **Jung Ah Park Bono '02**, a son, Ezra Ki-Eung, on June 19, 2007. Adam and Jung Ah own Beauty Max in Monroe.

To **Jenna Wellons Hilton '03** and her husband Dean, a daughter, Molly Bliss, on July 6, 2007. Jenna is a third grade teacher with Bladen County Schools.

To **Joseph '03** and **Tellie Sumner McSpadden '03**, a daughter, Zoey Claire, on Dec. 12, 2007. The family resides in Lawrenceville, Ga.

To **Sharon Duff Knosky '04** and her husband Jared, a son, Adam Ray, on June 19, 2007.

To **Emma Lyons Miner '04** and her husband Chad, a daughter, Hannah Grace, on Feb. 7, 2007.

To **Scot Fink '05** and his wife Toni, a daughter, Alyssa, on June 8, 2007. Scott is a production manager for Hawkeye Renewables in Fairbank, Iowa.

To **Susan Jordan Boyd '06** and her husband Bill, a daughter, Nov. 23, 2007. Susan is a registered nurse at New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

Deaths

James "Pat" Warren '48 on May 2, 2008. He was a member of the first class of Wilmington College and helped select the school's mascot and colors.

Claude McAllister '50 on March 14, 2008.

Kenneth Hansley '63 on Feb. 17, 2008.

Jessie L. Campbell '70 on Dec. 31, 2007.

Wanda E. McNair '73 on April 14, 2008.

Jennifer N. Fishel '98 on March 14, 2008.

Jonathan R. Cooke '02 on Dec. 21, 2007.

Ryan T. Carter '04 on March 15, 2008.

Friends

Claude Farrell, retired professor of economics in the Cameron School of Business, passed away on Feb. 7, 2008.

Marguerite Hopkins, a lecturer in the School of Nursing, passed away on March 17, 2008.

Boyd Robinson, business counselor with the Small Business and Technology Development Center, passed away on Jan. 27, 2008.

Alice Applewhite von Oesen passed away on May 3, 2008. She was a charter member and on the first board of directors of the Friends of Wilmington College (now Friends of UNCW).

Calendar

University & Alumni

University of North Carolina Wilmington magazine

UNCW

EDITOR

Marybeth K. Bianchi

PHOTO EDITOR

Jamie Moncrief

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Shirl Modlin Sawyer

EDITORIAL ADVISORS

Max Allen
Joy C. Davis '07
Dana Fischetti
Cindy Lawson
Rob McInturf
Kim Proukou '06M
Brenda Riegel
Claire Stanley
Andrea Weaver

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Joe Browning
Lauren Cribbs '08
Joy C. Davis '07
Emily Jones '09
Rob McInturf
Brenda Riegel
Andrea Weaver
Katie White '09

ALUMNI NOTES

Katie White '09

COPY EDITORS

Brenda Riegel
Andrea Weaver

August

- 1 UNCW Board of Trustees meeting
- 1-2 Carolina Ballet
- 10 Alumni picnic at Durham Bulls
- 11 Academic year begins
- 20 First day of classes
- 20 Wilmington College luncheon
Jackson's Big Oak Barbecue
- 27 Involvement Carnival

September

- 1 Labor Day
UNCW offices closed
- 15 Leadership Lecture Series
Naomi Wolf, author and activist
- 17 Wilmington College luncheon
Jackson's Big Oak Barbecue
- 29 Arts in Action
Chapter 6

October

- TBA Grand Alumni Champions Social
- 4-7 Fall break
- 13 Leadership Lecture Series
Paleoanthropologist Richard Leakey
- 15 Wilmington College luncheon
Jackson's Big Oak Barbecue
- 23-24 UNCW Board of Trustees Meetings
- 24 Arts in Action
Irish Homecoming

November

- 15 Arts in Action
Ruthi Foster
- 27-28 Thanksgiving break
UNCW offices closed

December

- TBA Wise Alumni Houe holiday open house
- 3 Last day of classes
- 13 Commencement
- 16 North Carolina Symphony
- 24-31 Winter break
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☐ News/promotion/honors ☐ Wedding ☐ Birth ☐ Address change

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